that Doordarshan broadcast programmes highlighting the country's heritage and glorious past on different occasions.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati has informed that M/s. Nanda Devi Films has offered the said film for telecast on Doordarshan and that the firm has been asked to submit a tape of the films to facilitate its preview.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Launching of Mausam channel

337. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to launch a joint venture new twenty four hour Mausam channel to forecast weather conditions across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this channel would forecast weather conditions at district levels; and

(d) to what extent this would be useful especially to the farmers, traders and the tourists?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that they are not considering any proposal to launch any such channel. However, Department of Science and Technology are considering a proposal to start a dedicated weather Channel in the next 2-3 years. The feasibility of launching this channel is being explored in consultation with leading TV channels in the country. The proposed channel will benefit the whole society including the farmers.

Effect of failure of satellite on broadcasting

338. DR. M. A. M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to the failed launch of the satellite the development in broadcasting has suffered a set back;